IDW

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SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

Fang the Hunter

SEGA®

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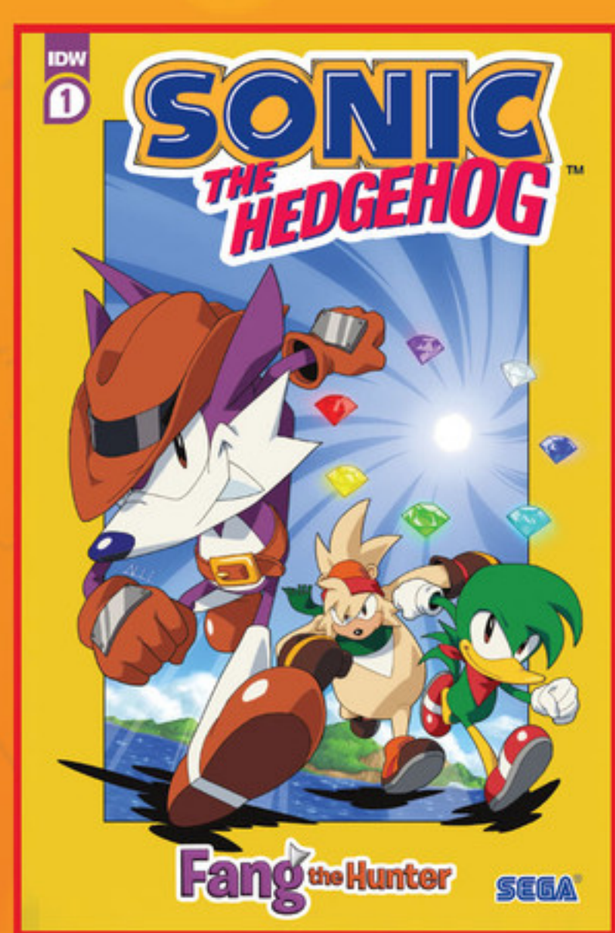

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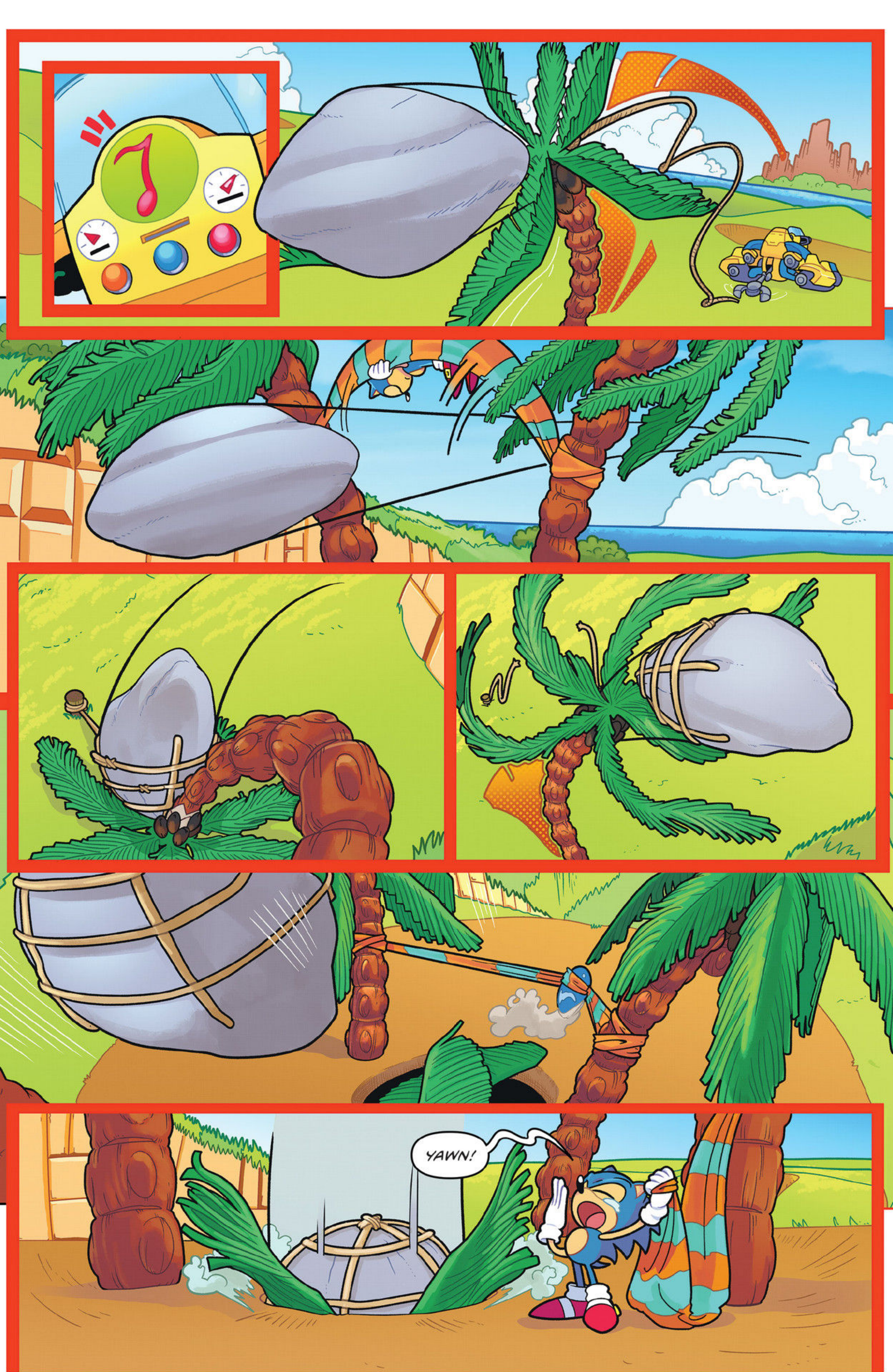
"THERE HE IS. SONIC THE HEDGEHOG...

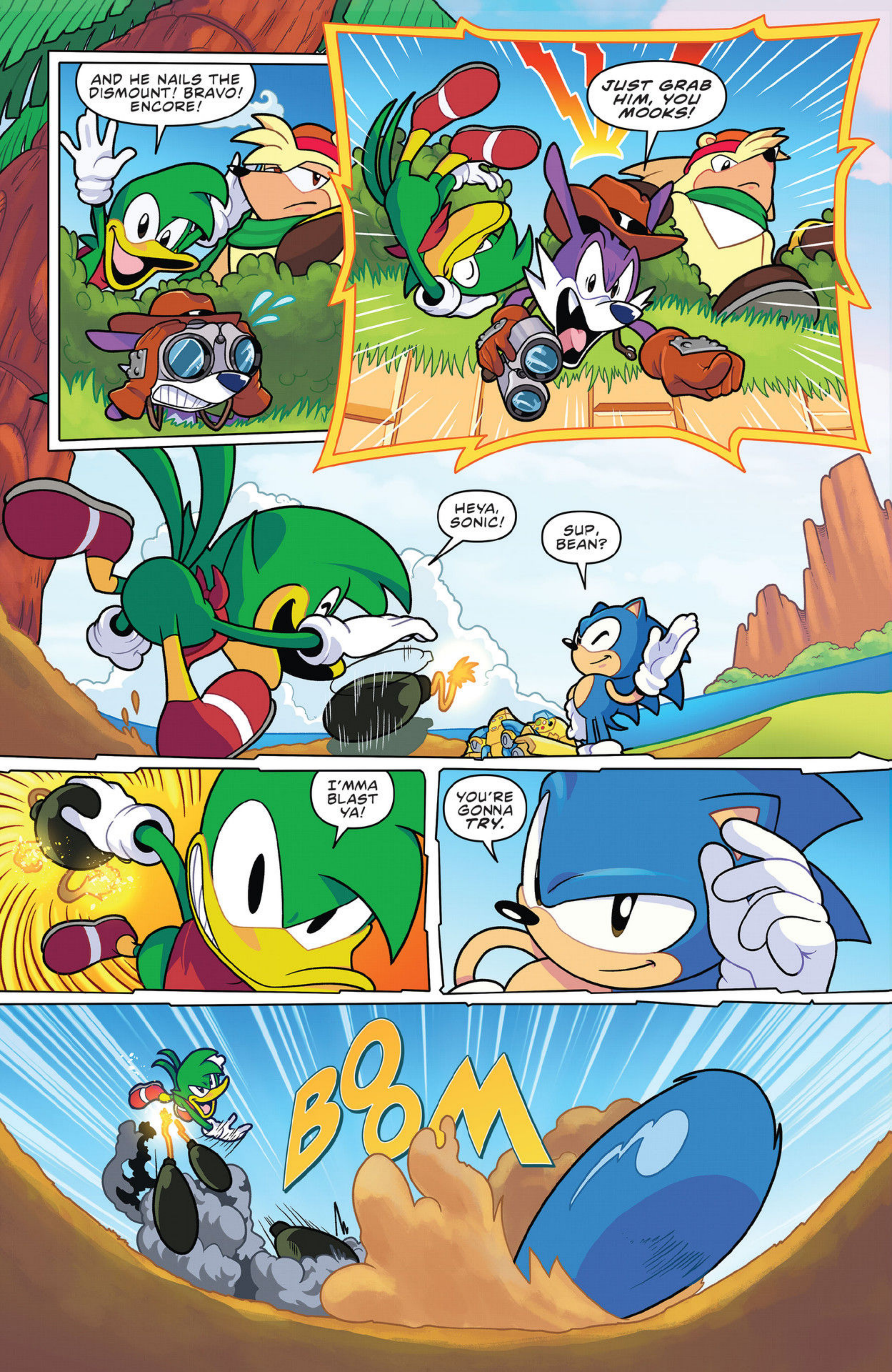
"...WITHOUT A CARE IN THE WORLD...

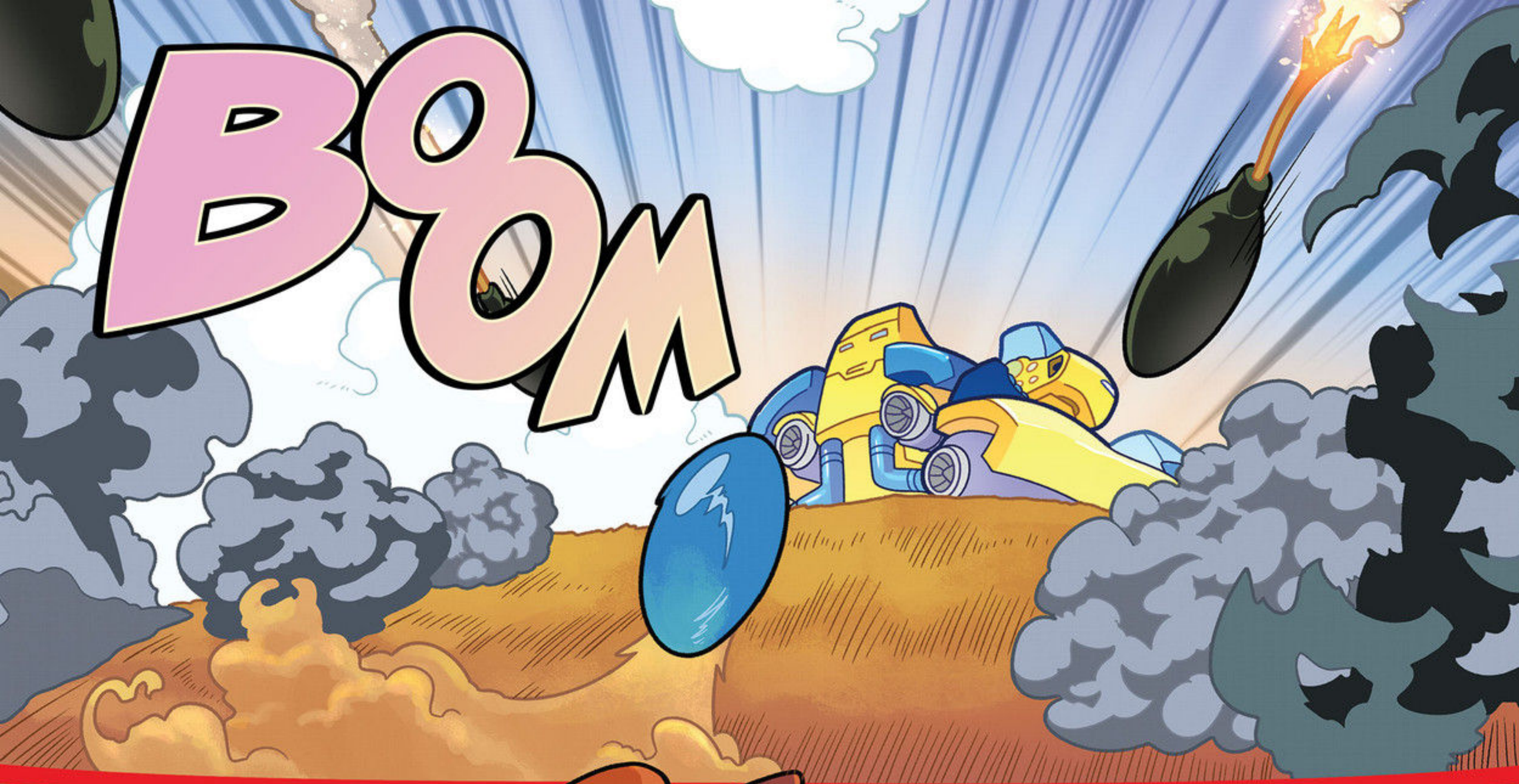
"...AND WITHOUT A CLUE! HA!"

HE'S AS GOOD AS CAUGHT!

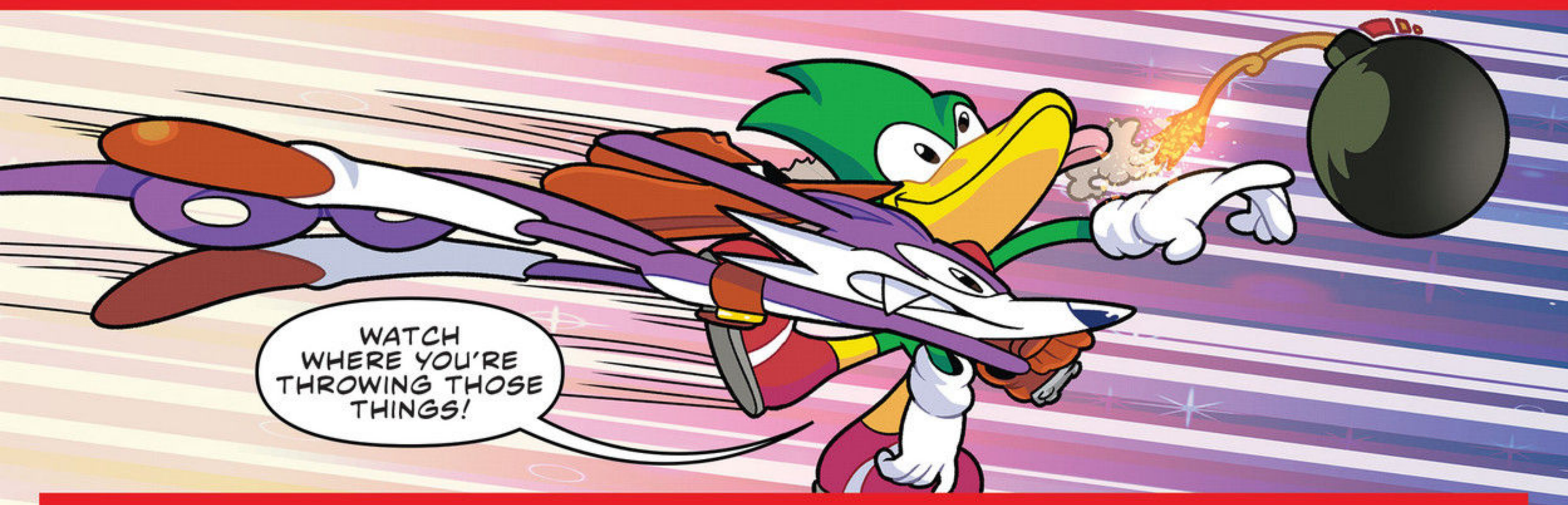
♪


YAWN!


AND HE NAILS THE DISMOUNT! BRAVO! ENCORE!
JUST GRAB HIM, YOU MOOKS!
HEYA, SONIC!
SUP, BEAN?
I'MMA BLAST YA!
YOU'RE GONNA TRY.
BOOM

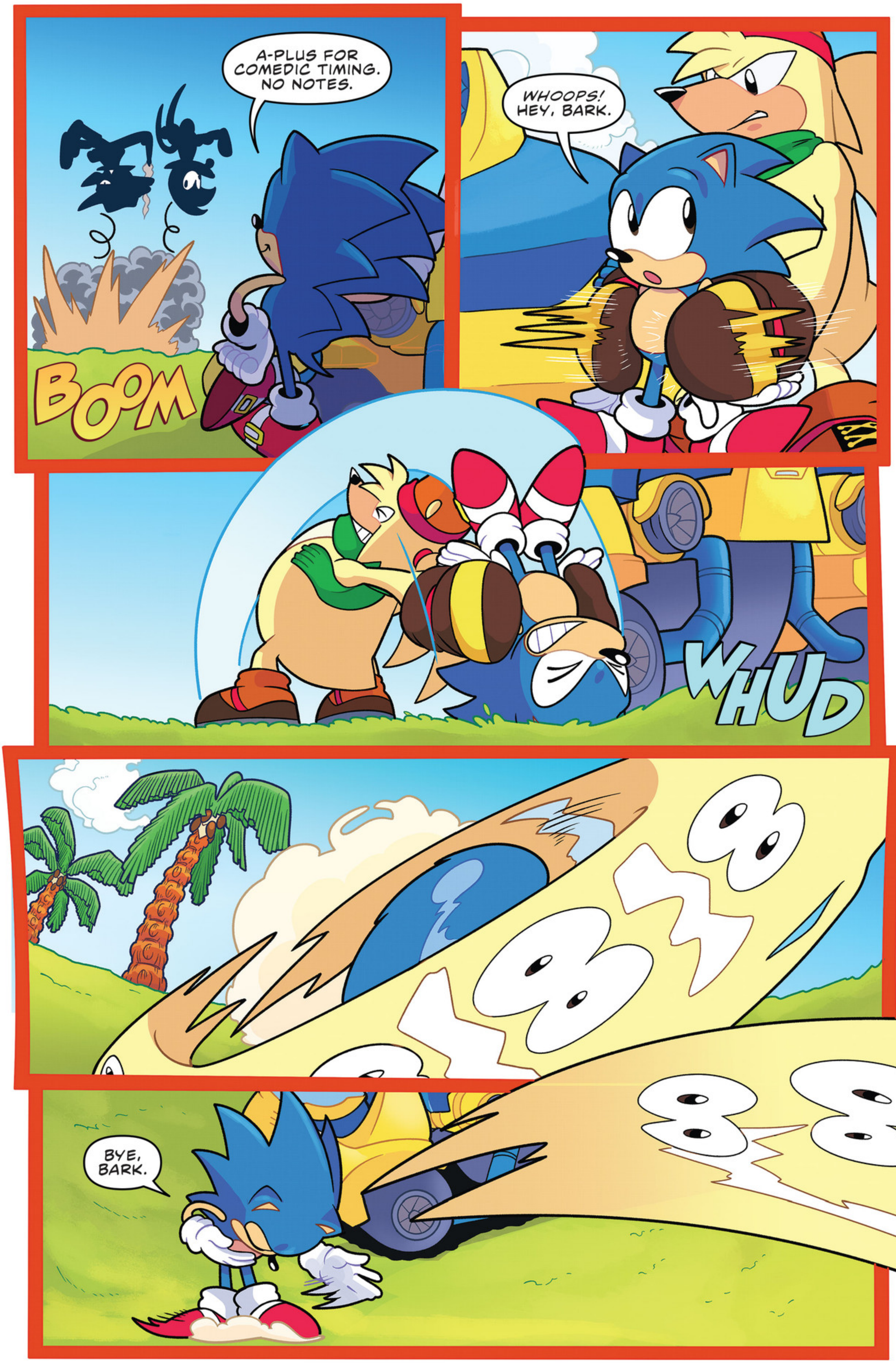

BOOM

NOT MY RIDE!


WATCH WHERE YOU'RE THROWING THOSE THINGS!

OKAY! BUT YOU MADE ME LOSE ONE!

NEVER MIND! THERE IT IS!


A-PLUS FOR COMEDIC TIMING. NO NOTES.
BOOM
WHOOPS! HEY, BARK.
WHUD
BYE, BARK.

DID EVERYONE LEARN THEIR LESSON? OR DO WE NEED AN ACT TWO?

BIG TALK FOR SOMEONE WE KNOCKED UPSIDE DOWN!

THE EIGHTH CHAOS EMERALD!

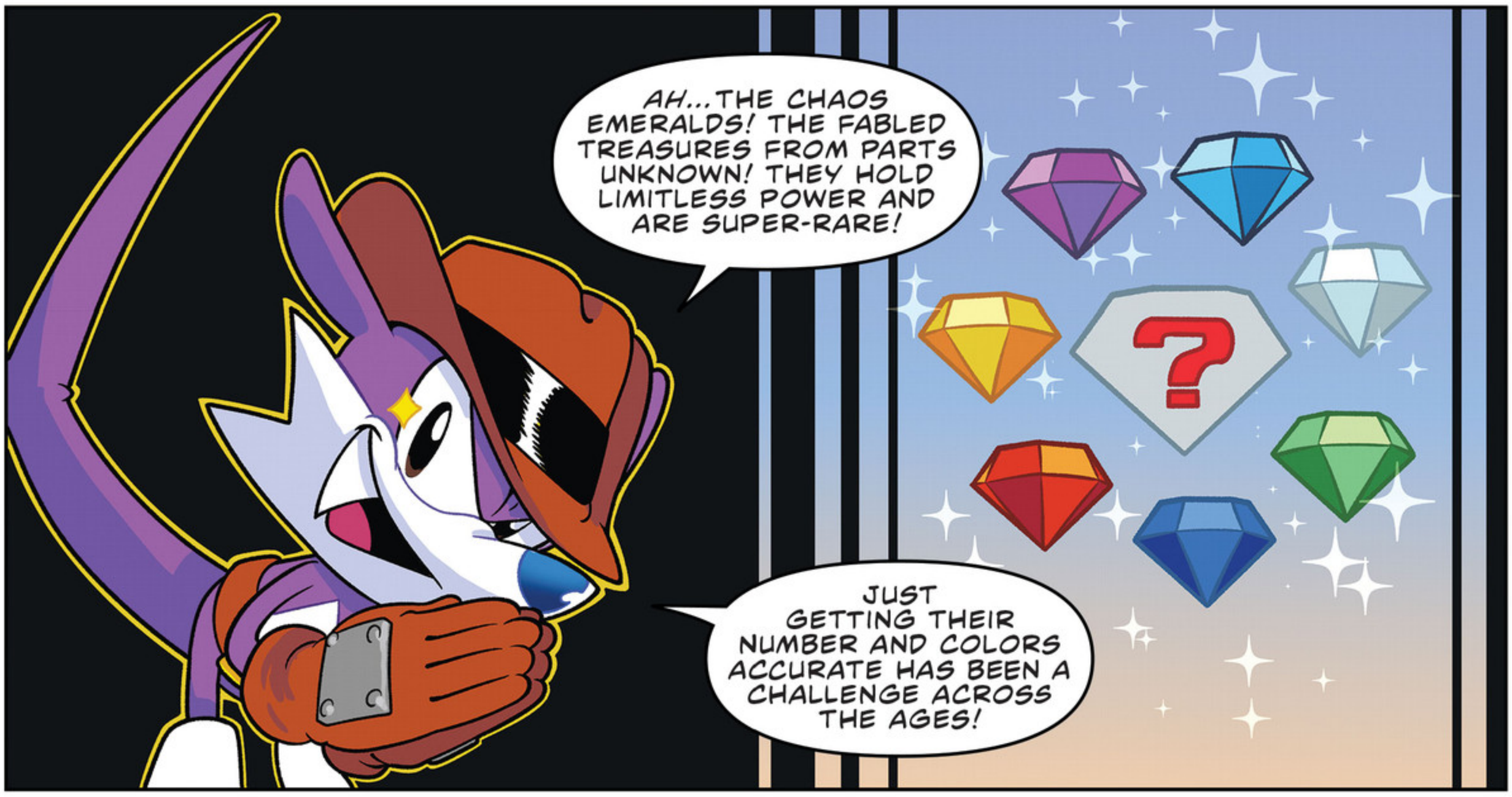
YOU MEAN... THE MASTER EMERALD?

NO! THAT'S THE *MASTER* EMERALD!

THIS IS ONE OF THE SMALL, COLORFUL ONES!

...YOU'RE MAKING THIS UP.

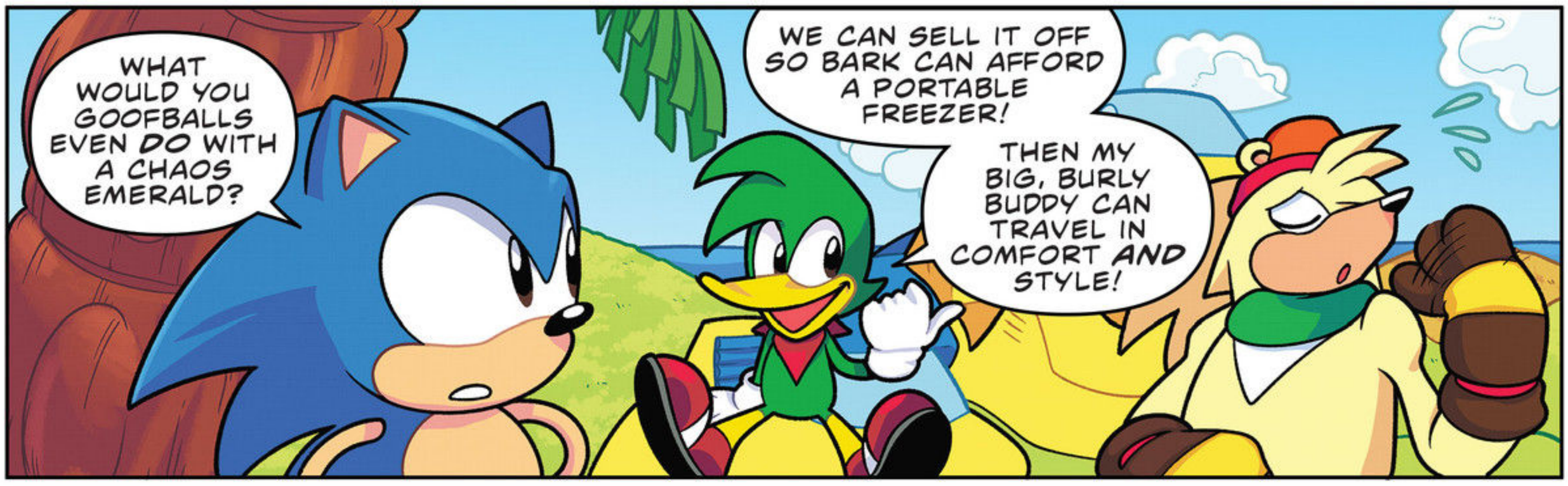
IT'S A REAL THING!

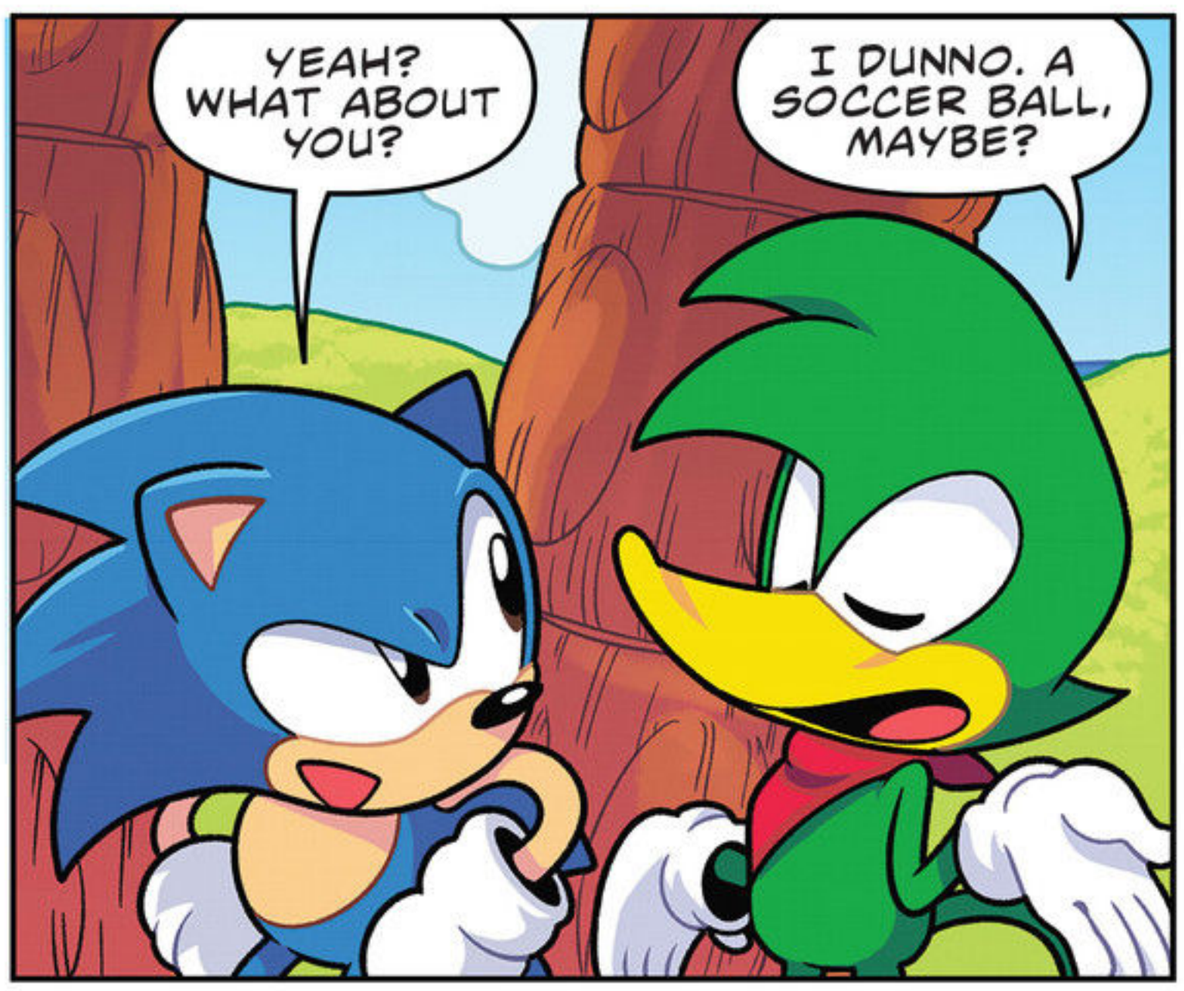

AH...THE CHAOS EMERALDS! THE FABLED TREASURES FROM PARTS UNKNOWN! THEY HOLD LIMITLESS POWER AND ARE SUPER-RARE!
JUST GETTING THEIR NUMBER AND COLORS ACCURATE HAS BEEN A CHALLENGE ACROSS THE AGES!
?

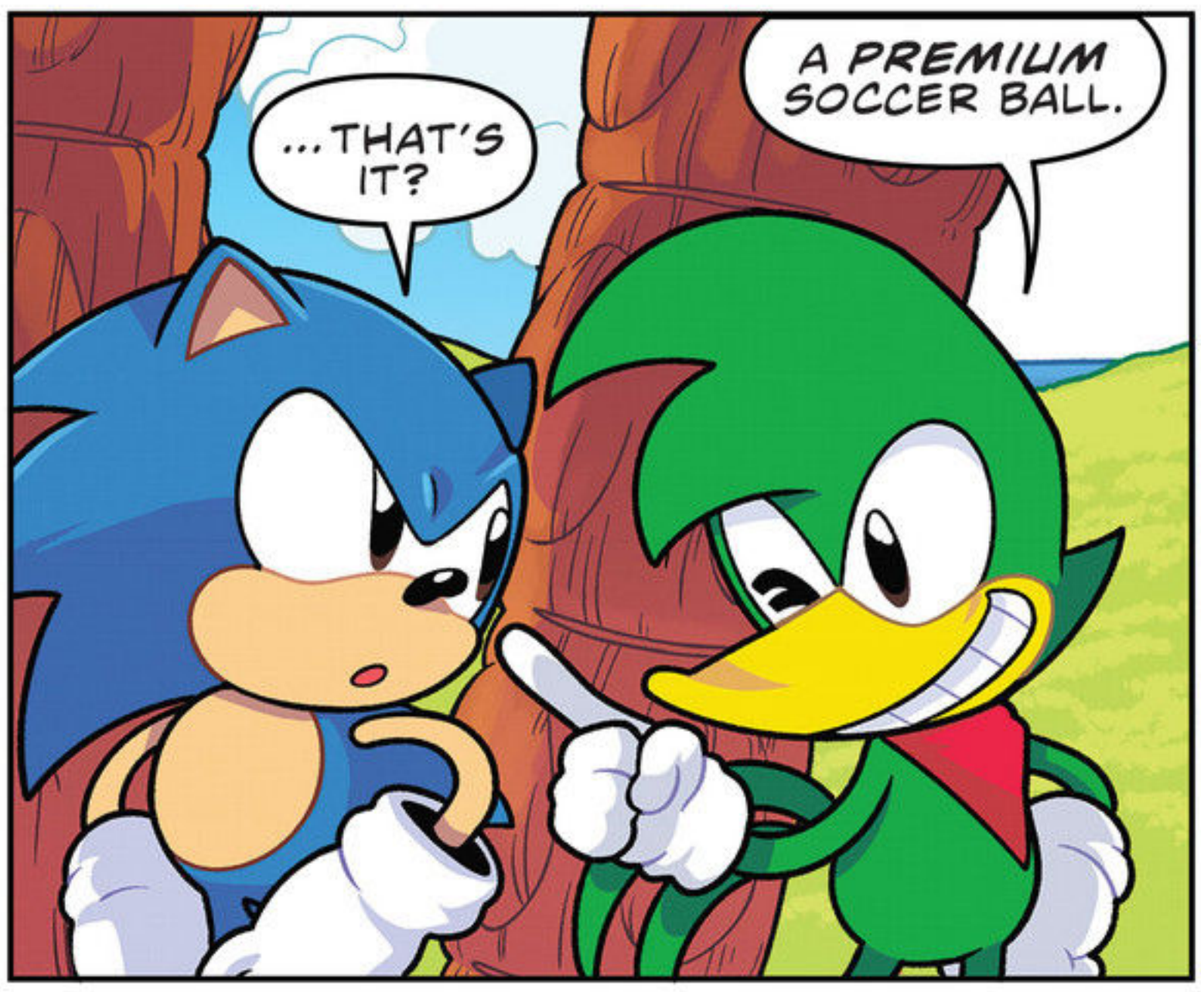
THERE'RE SEVEN.
I KNOW. I'VE FOUND THEM ALL. REPEATEDLY.

SO YOU SAY!
YEAH! 'CAUSE IT'S TRUE!

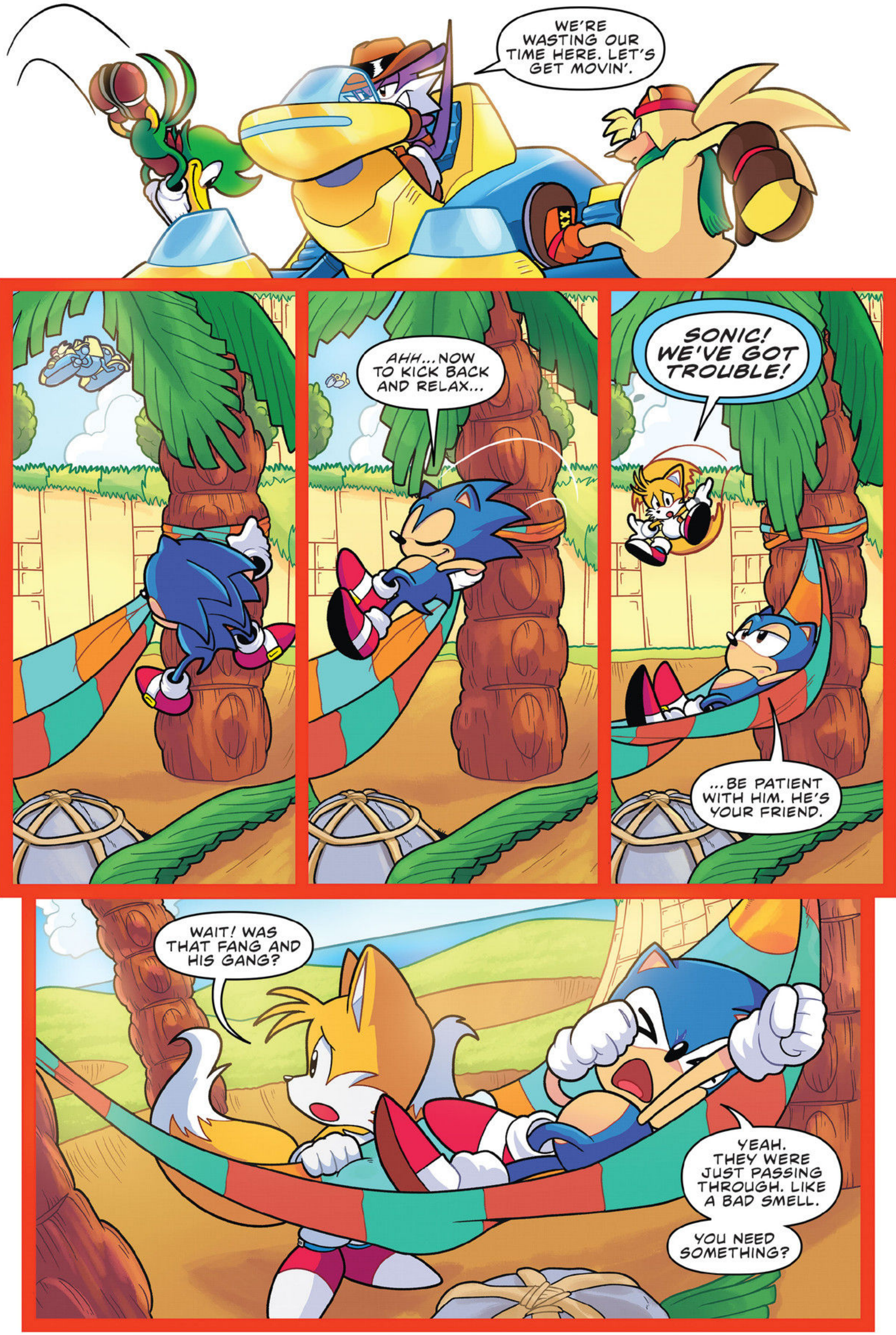
WHAT'S IT SUPPOSED TO LOOK LIKE?
GOING BY MY SOURCES? ORANGE! OR...GOLD. OR MAYBE KINDA RAINBOWY?
THAT LAST ONE SAID IT HAD EMERALDS INSIDE IT, SO I DUNNO...


WHAT WOULD YOU GOOFBALLS EVEN DO WITH A CHAOS EMERALD?
WE CAN SELL IT OFF SO BARK CAN AFFORD A PORTABLE FREEZER!
THEN MY BIG, BURLY BUDDY CAN TRAVEL IN COMFORT AND STYLE!


YEAH? WHAT ABOUT YOU?
I DUNNO. A SOCCER BALL, MAYBE?


...THAT'S IT?
A PREMIUM SOCCER BALL.

AND I CAN FINALLY GIVE MY MARVELOUS QUEEN THE UPGRADES SHE DESERVES.
AND THEN SHE'LL HAVE THE OOMPH SHE NEEDS TO TAKE YOU DOWN ANY DAY OF THE WEEK.
YEAH, WELL, YOU'RE CHASING A FAIRY TALE, SO I'M SAFE.
NOW BEAT IT. I ONLY CAUGHT 30 OF MY 40 WINKS.
I'M GONNA RUB THAT EIGHTH EMERALD IN YOUR FACE BEFORE I CASH IT IN!


WE'RE WASTING OUR TIME HERE. LET'S GET MOVIN'.
AHH...NOW TO KICK BACK AND RELAX...
SONIC! WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!
...BE PATIENT WITH HIM. HE'S YOUR FRIEND.
WAIT! WAS THAT FANG AND HIS GANG?
YEAH. THEY WERE JUST PASSING THROUGH. LIKE A BAD SMELL.
YOU NEED SOMETHING?

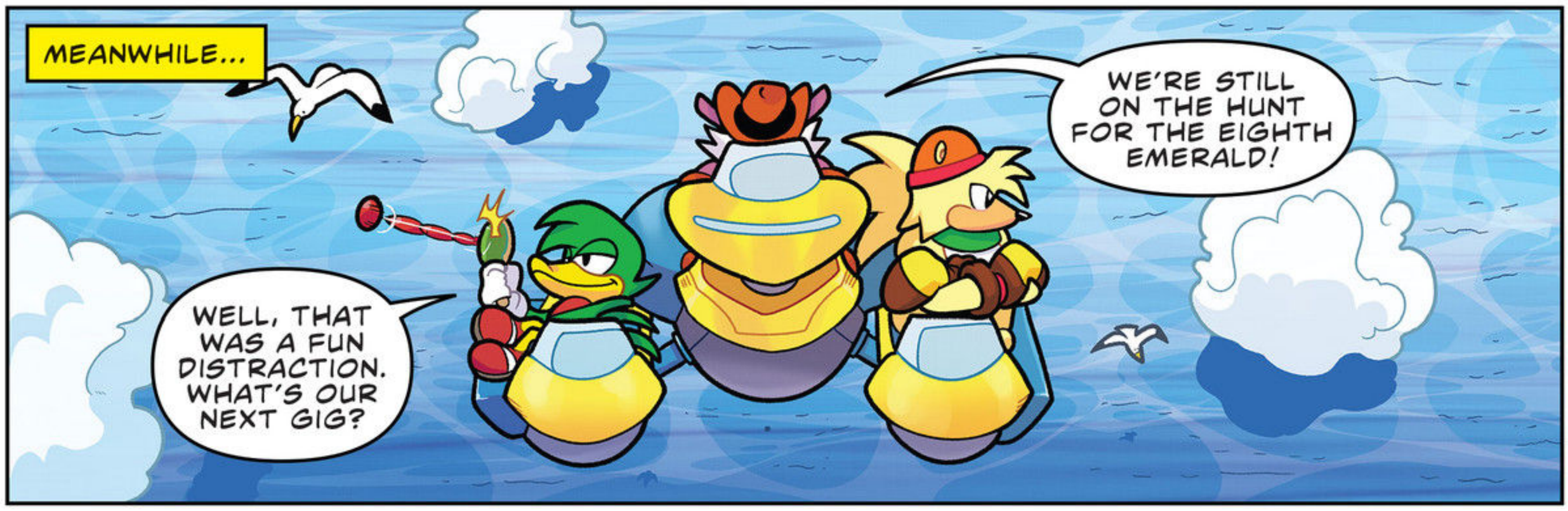
OH, YEAH! I JUST HEARD SOME KIND OF FLYING BATTLESHIP ATTACKED MARBLE ZONE ON SOUTH ISLAND!

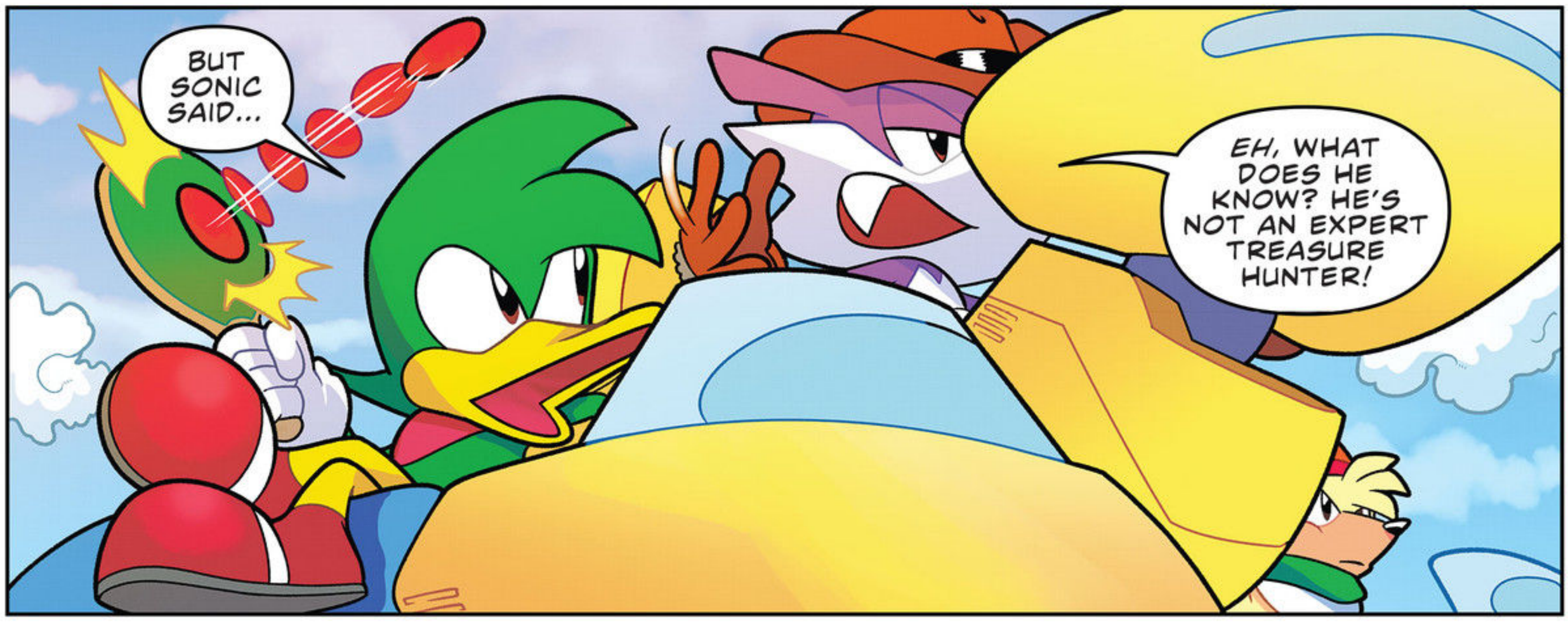
SO THE FIERY RUINS ARE...ON FIRE AND RUINED?
SONIC...

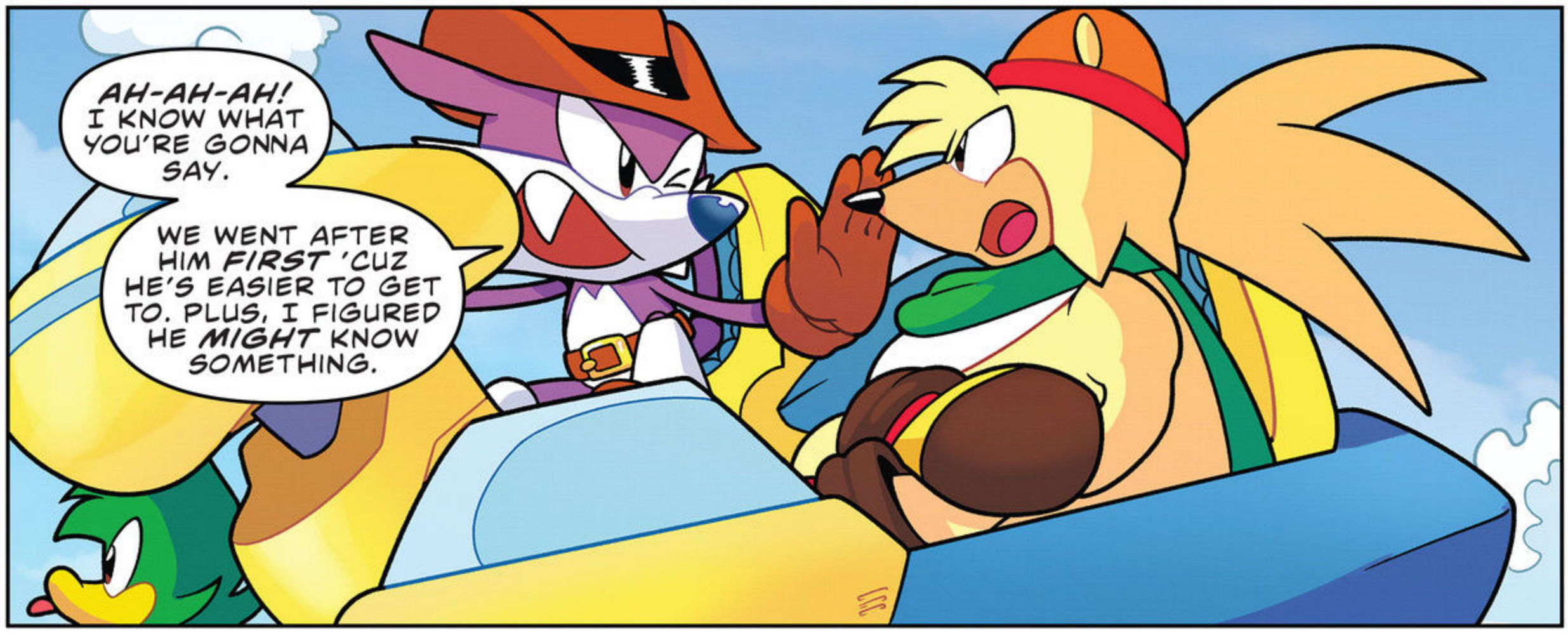
YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW, I KNOW. SOUNDS LIKE EGGMAN UP TO HIS USUAL NONSENSE...
THAT'S JUST IT! THERE WAS NO INVASION OR FOLLOW-UP. THE WITNESSES SAID THE BATTLESHIP VANISHED RIGHT AFTER!

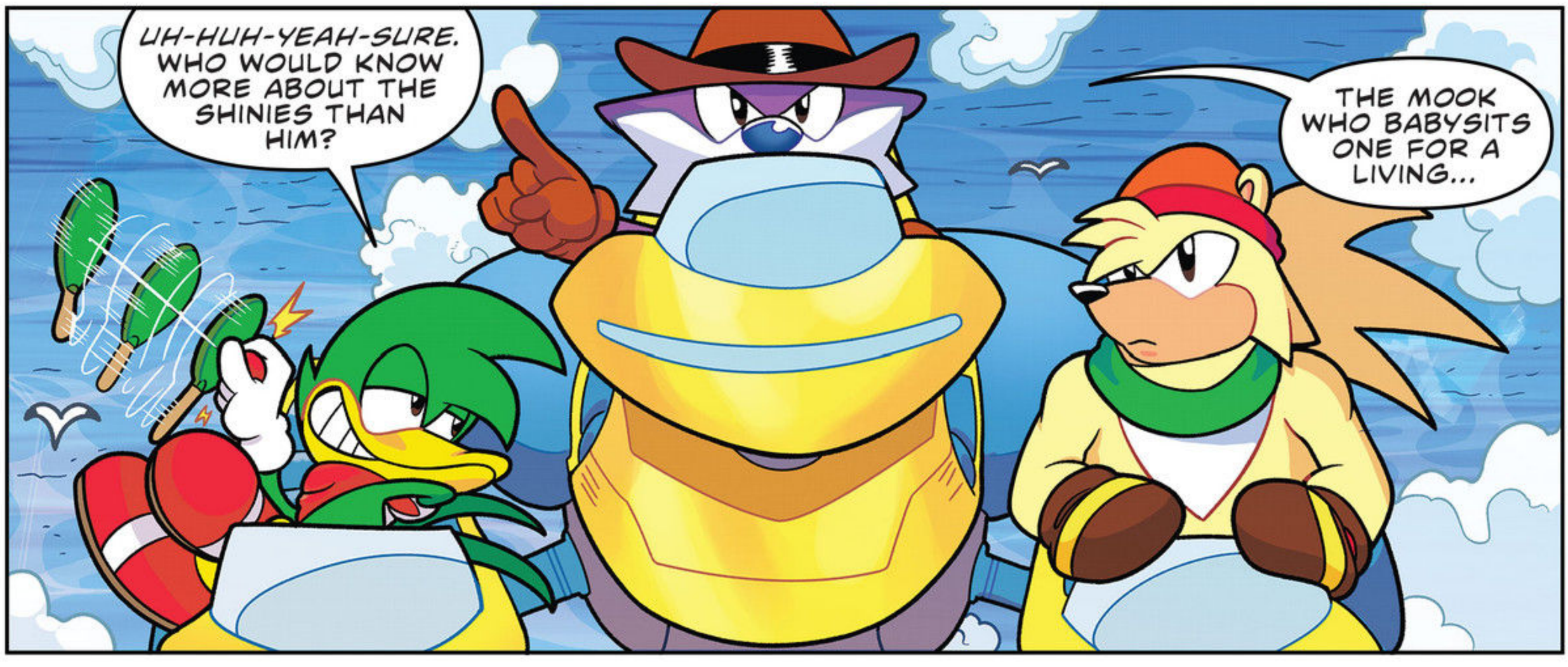
YOU MEAN IT FLEW AWAY SUPERFAST?
NO! JUST--POOF--GONE!

A GHOST FLYING BATTLESHIP?
NOW THIS I GOTTA SEE! LET'S GO, TAILS!

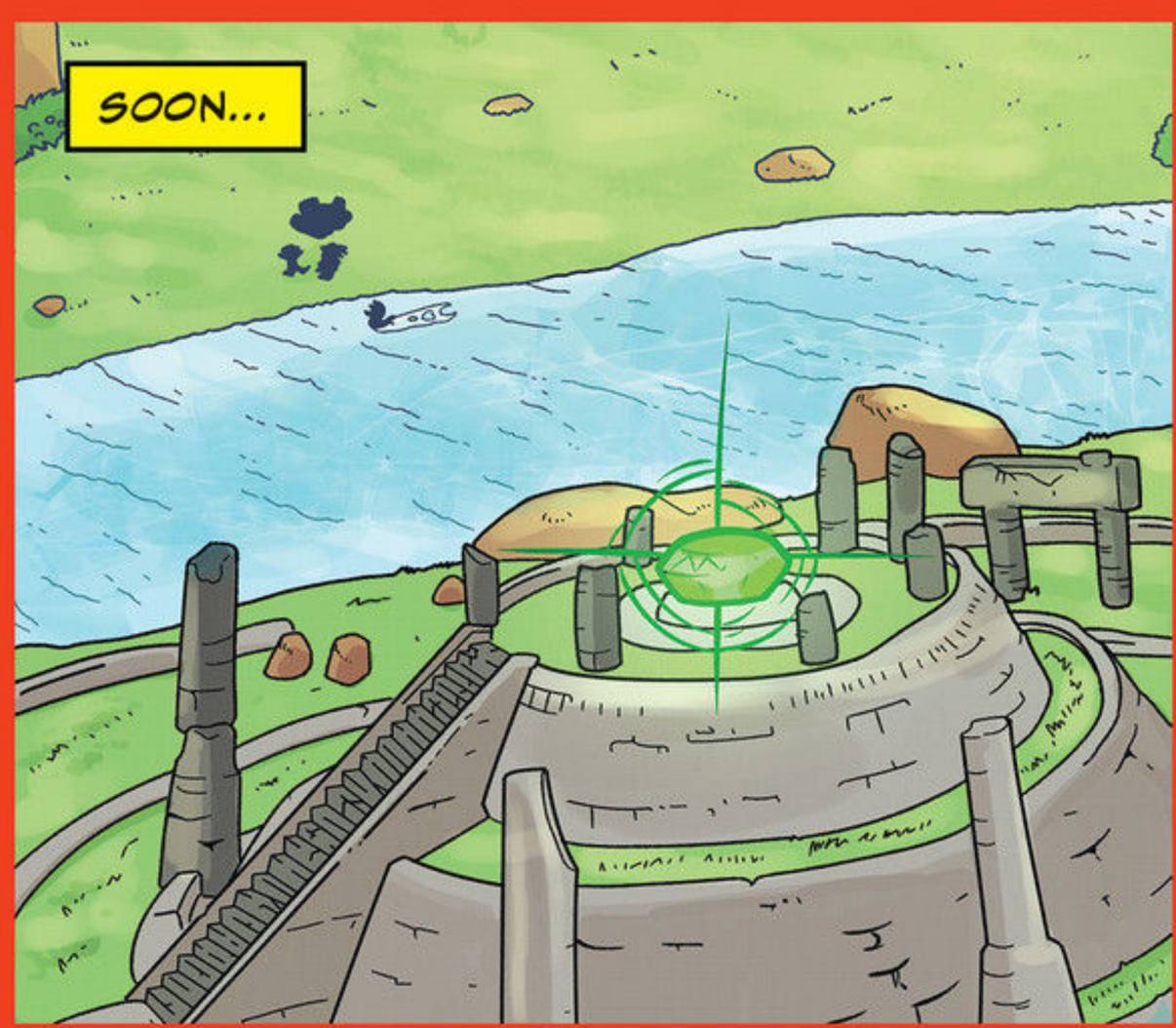

MEANWHILE...
WELL, THAT WAS A FUN DISTRACTION. WHAT'S OUR NEXT GIG?
WE'RE STILL ON THE HUNT FOR THE EIGHTH EMERALD!

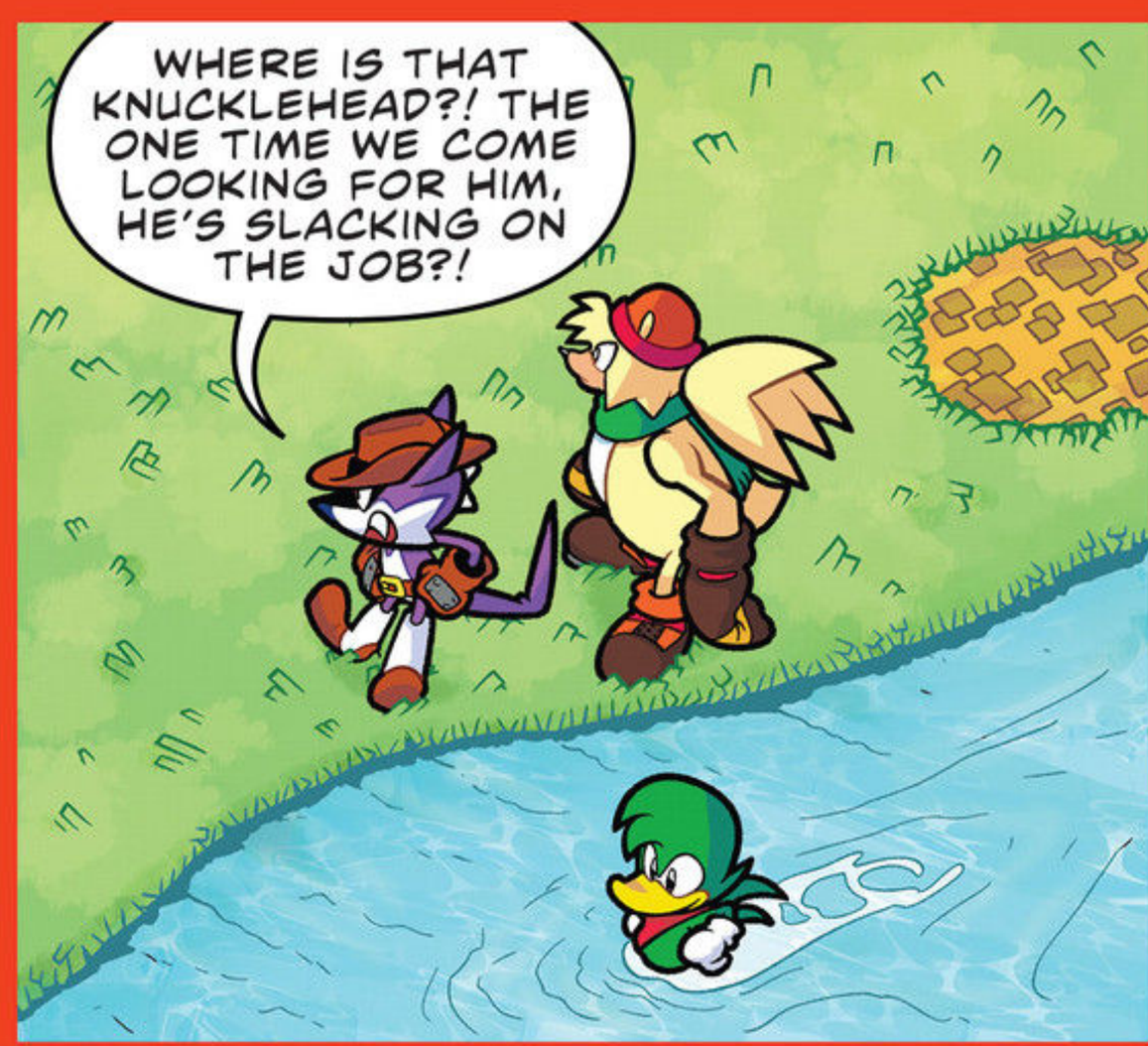

BUT SONIC SAID...
EH, WHAT DOES HE KNOW? HE'S NOT AN EXPERT TREASURE HUNTER!

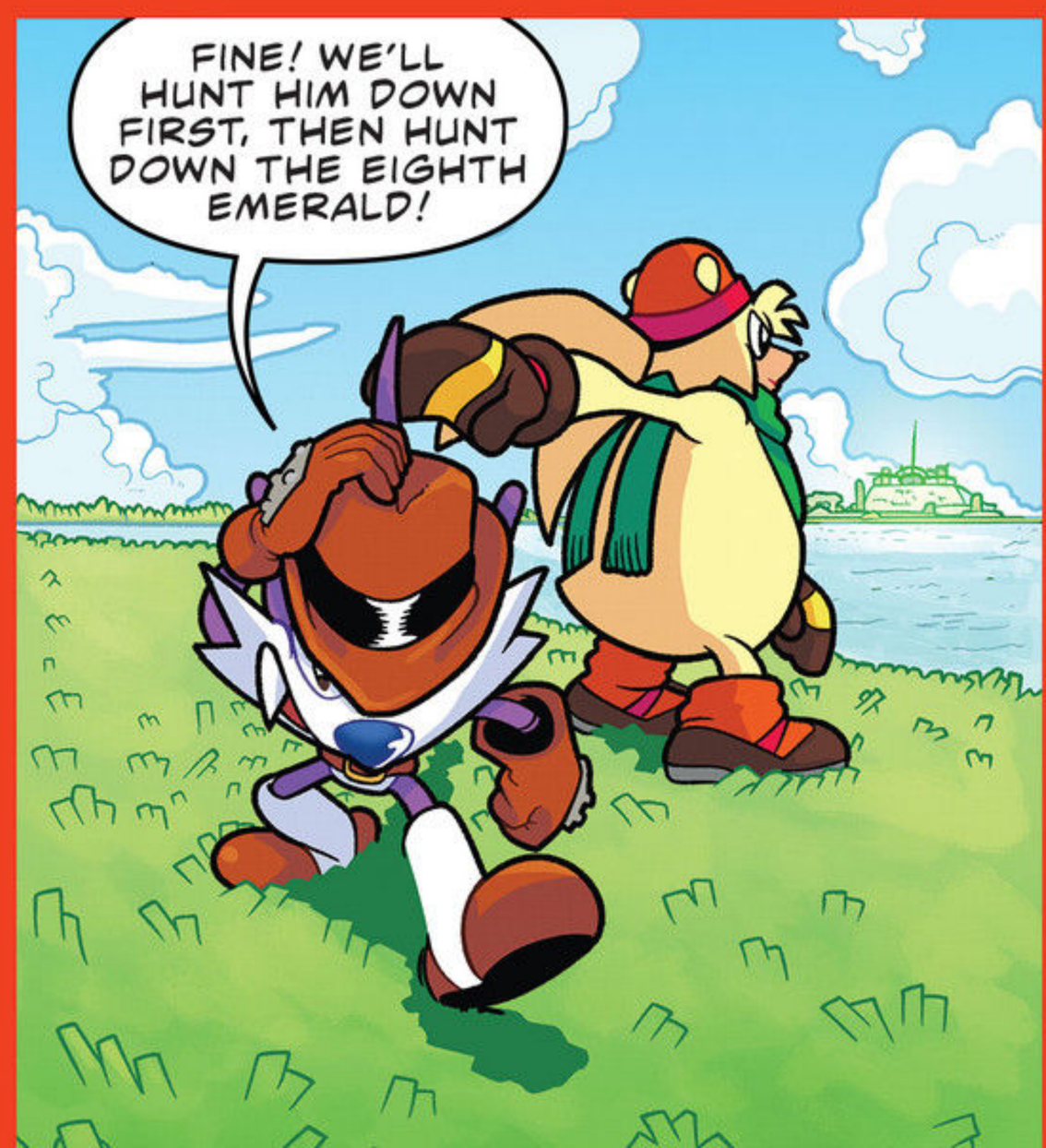

AH-AH-AH! I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GONNA SAY.
WE WENT AFTER HIM FIRST 'CUZ HE'S EASIER TO GET TO. PLUS, I FIGURED HE MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING.


UH-HUH-YEAH-SURE. WHO WOULD KNOW MORE ABOUT THE SHINIES THAN HIM?
THE MOOK WHO BABYSITS ONE FOR A LIVING...

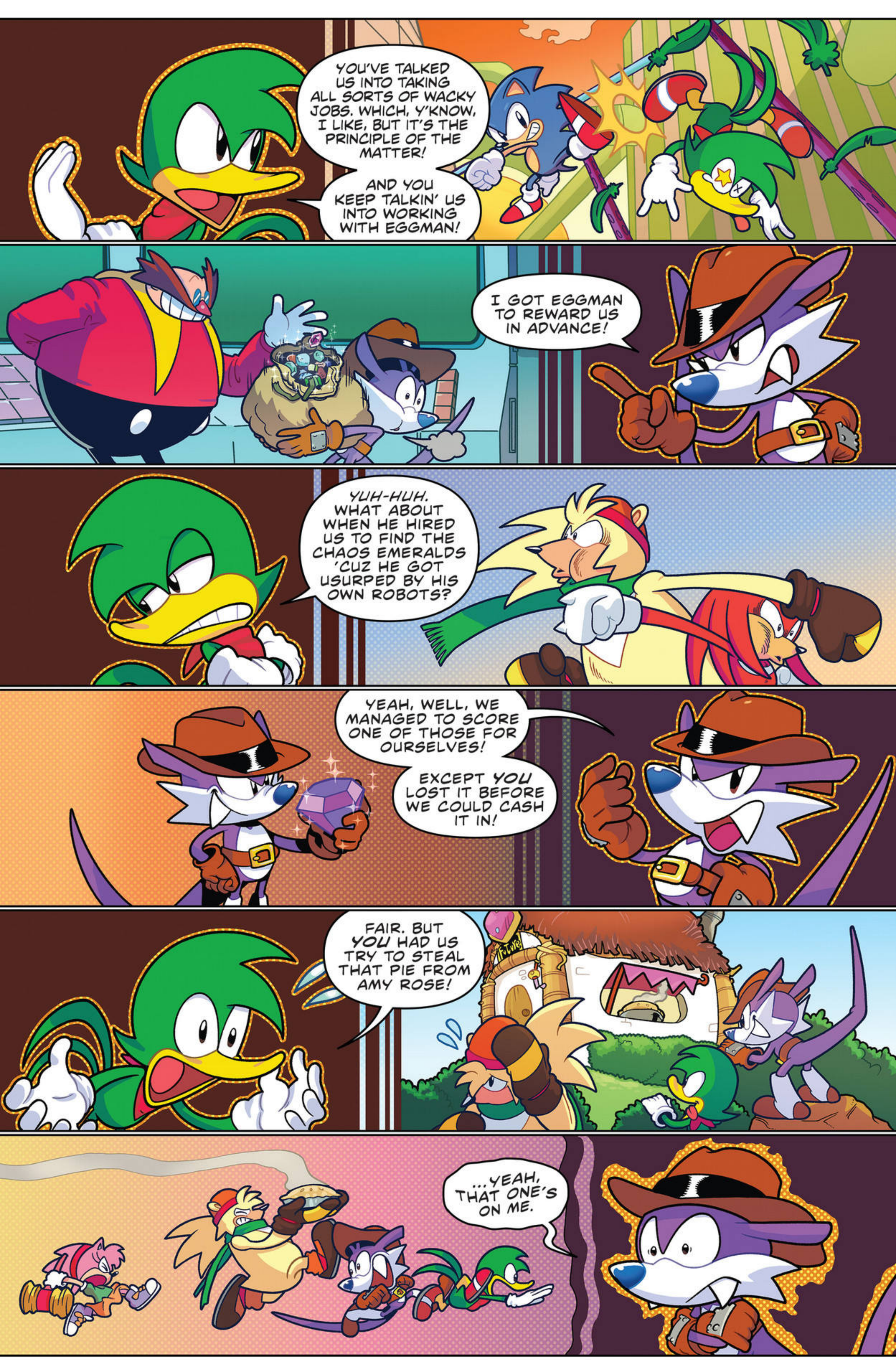
"KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA! GUARDIAN OF THE MASTER EMERALD!"

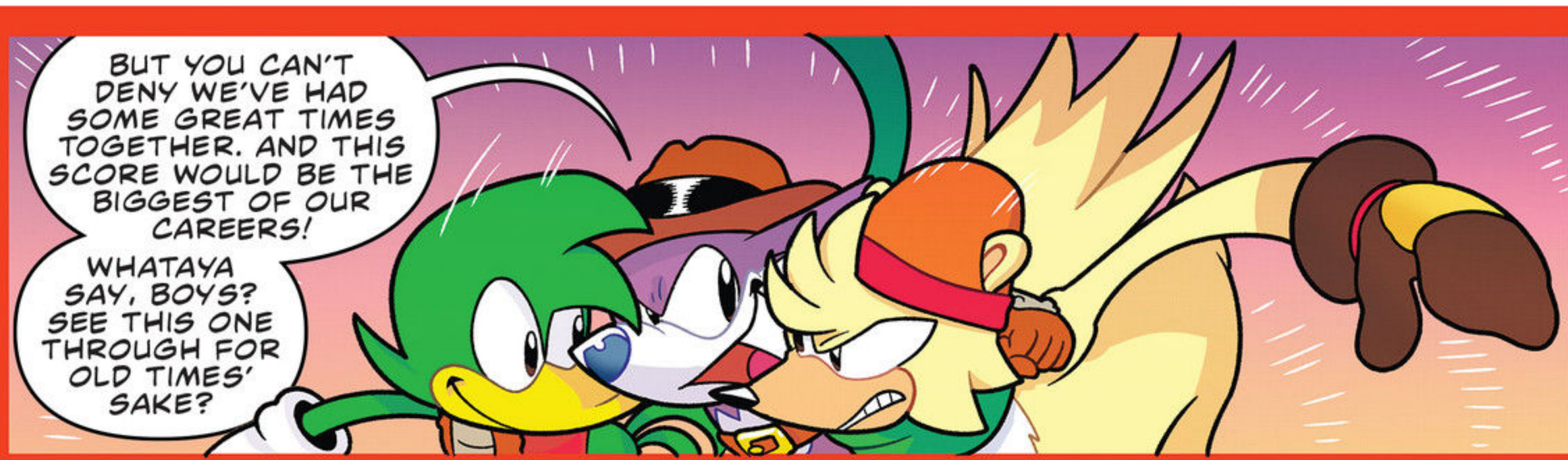






Y'KNOW, BARK AND I'VE BEEN TALKING, AND WE'RE STARTING TO GET TIRED OF YOUR ANTICS.
MY ANTICS?!
I'M THE BRAINS OF THIS OUTFIT! YOU TWO WOULD BE LOST WITHOUT ME!
I'VE BEEN TAGGING ALONG BECAUSE IT'S BEEN FUN. I CAN GET INTO ALL KINDS OF MISCHIEF WITH YOU.
MY BUDDY HERE MAKES SURE I NEVER GET IN TOO DEEP OVER MY HEAD.
YOU NEED US AS BACKUP MORE THAN WE NEED YOU FOR INSPIRATION.
OH, COME ON! WHEN HAVE I EVER LED YOU ASTRAY?

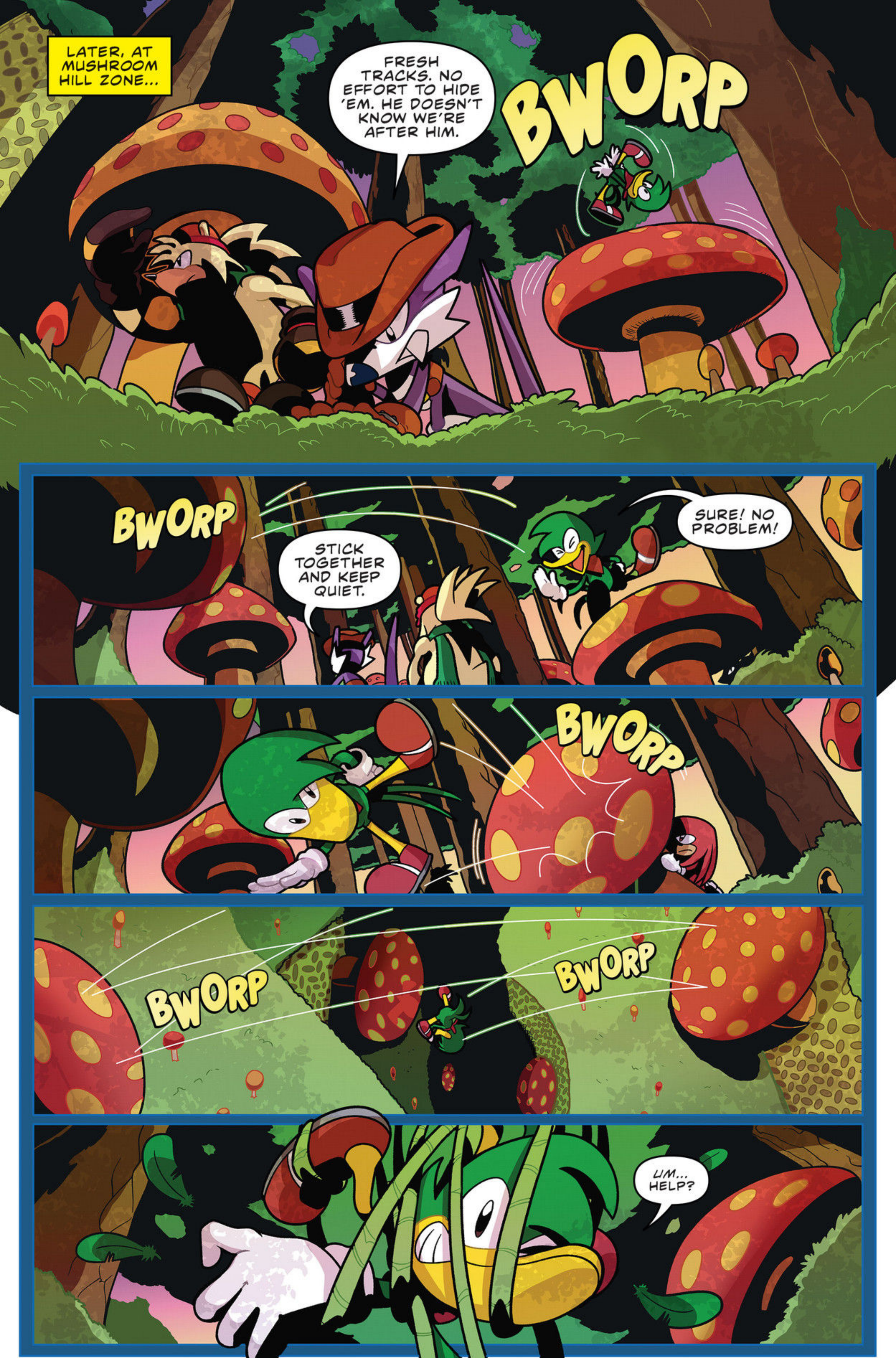

YOU'VE TALKED US INTO TAKING ALL SORTS OF WACKY JOBS. WHICH, Y'KNOW, I LIKE, BUT IT'S THE PRINCIPLE OF THE MATTER!
AND YOU KEEP TALKIN' US INTO WORKING WITH EGGMAN!
I GOT EGGMAN TO REWARD US IN ADVANCE!
YUH-HUH. WHAT ABOUT WHEN HE HIRED US TO FIND THE CHAOS EMERALDS 'CUZ HE GOT USURPED BY HIS OWN ROBOTS?
YEAH, WELL, WE MANAGED TO SCORE ONE OF THOSE FOR OURSELVES!
EXCEPT YOU LOST IT BEFORE WE COULD CASH IT IN!
FAIR. BUT YOU HAD US TRY TO STEAL THAT PIE FROM AMY ROSE!
...YEAH, THAT ONE'S ON ME.


BUT YOU CAN'T DENY WE'VE HAD SOME GREAT TIMES TOGETHER. AND THIS SCORE WOULD BE THE BIGGEST OF OUR CAREERS!
WHATAYA SAY, BOYS? SEE THIS ONE THROUGH FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE?

D'AWW...LOOK AT HIM, BARK! HE'S TRYING SO HARD TO PRETEND TO LIKE US!
LET'S STICK AROUND FOR THE PUNCH LINE ONE MORE TIME, YEAH?

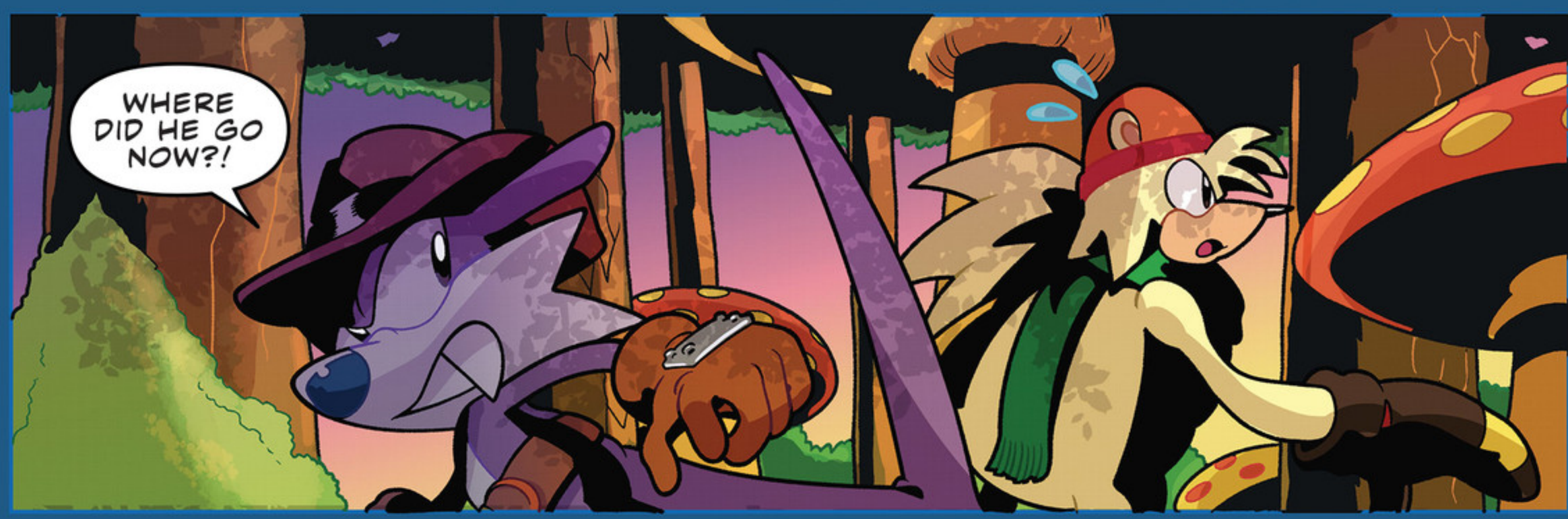
GREAT. SO HAPPY YOU'RE STICKING WITH ME.
LEAD ON, FEARLESS LEADER.

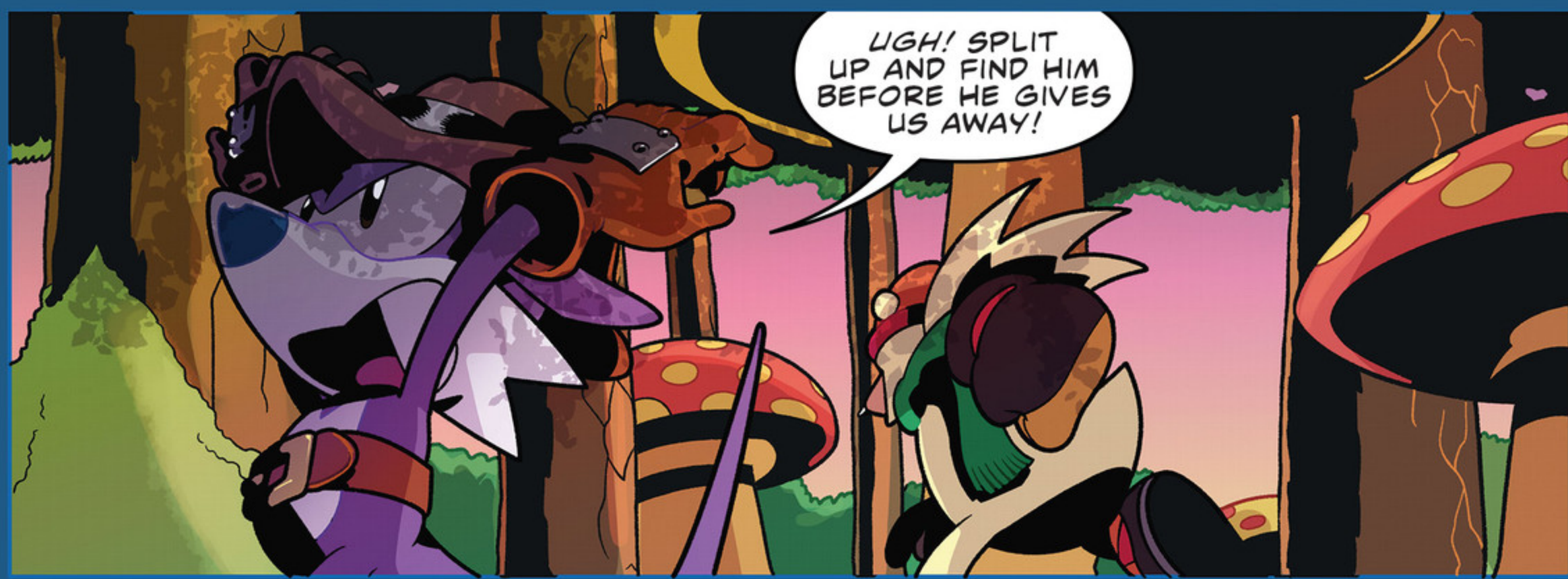
♪
YEAH, I KNOW. I'M WATCHING THEM.


LATER, AT MUSHROOM HILL ZONE...
FRESH TRACKS. NO EFFORT TO HIDE 'EM. HE DOESN'T KNOW WE'RE AFTER HIM.
BWORP
BWORP
STICK TOGETHER AND KEEP QUIET.
SURE! NO PROBLEM!
BWORP
BWORP
BWORP
UM... HELP?

HEH. BOMB-MOOK'S ACTUALLY FOLLOWING ORDERS FOR ONCE.

...I DON'T TRUST IT.


WHERE DID HE GO NOW?!

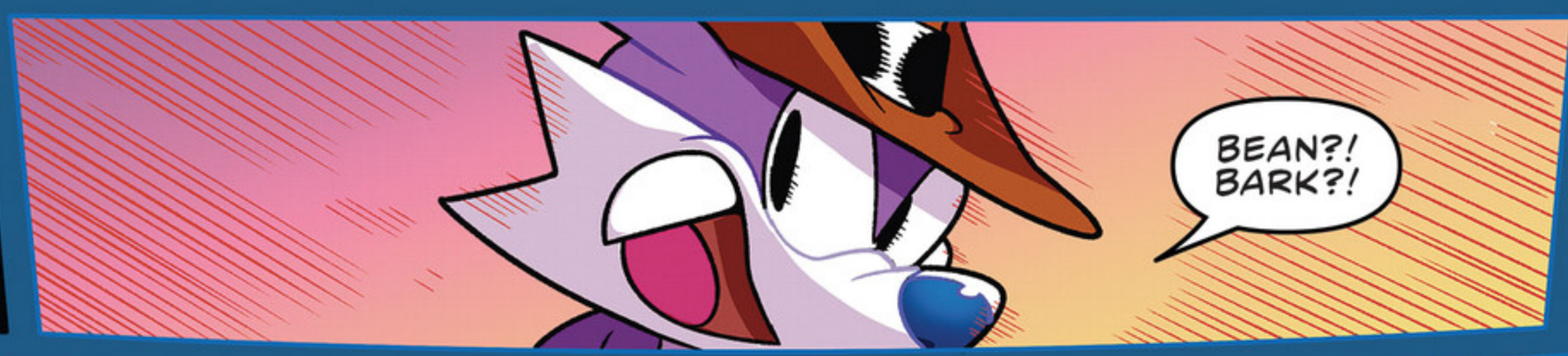

UGH! SPLIT UP AND FIND HIM BEFORE HE GIVES US AWAY!

!
KA-CHAK
WHOSH

TWO DOWN, ONE TO GO.

WAIT A MINUTE...

...THESE TRACKS LOOP BACK ON THEMSELVES. DELIBERATELY.


BEAN?! BARK?!

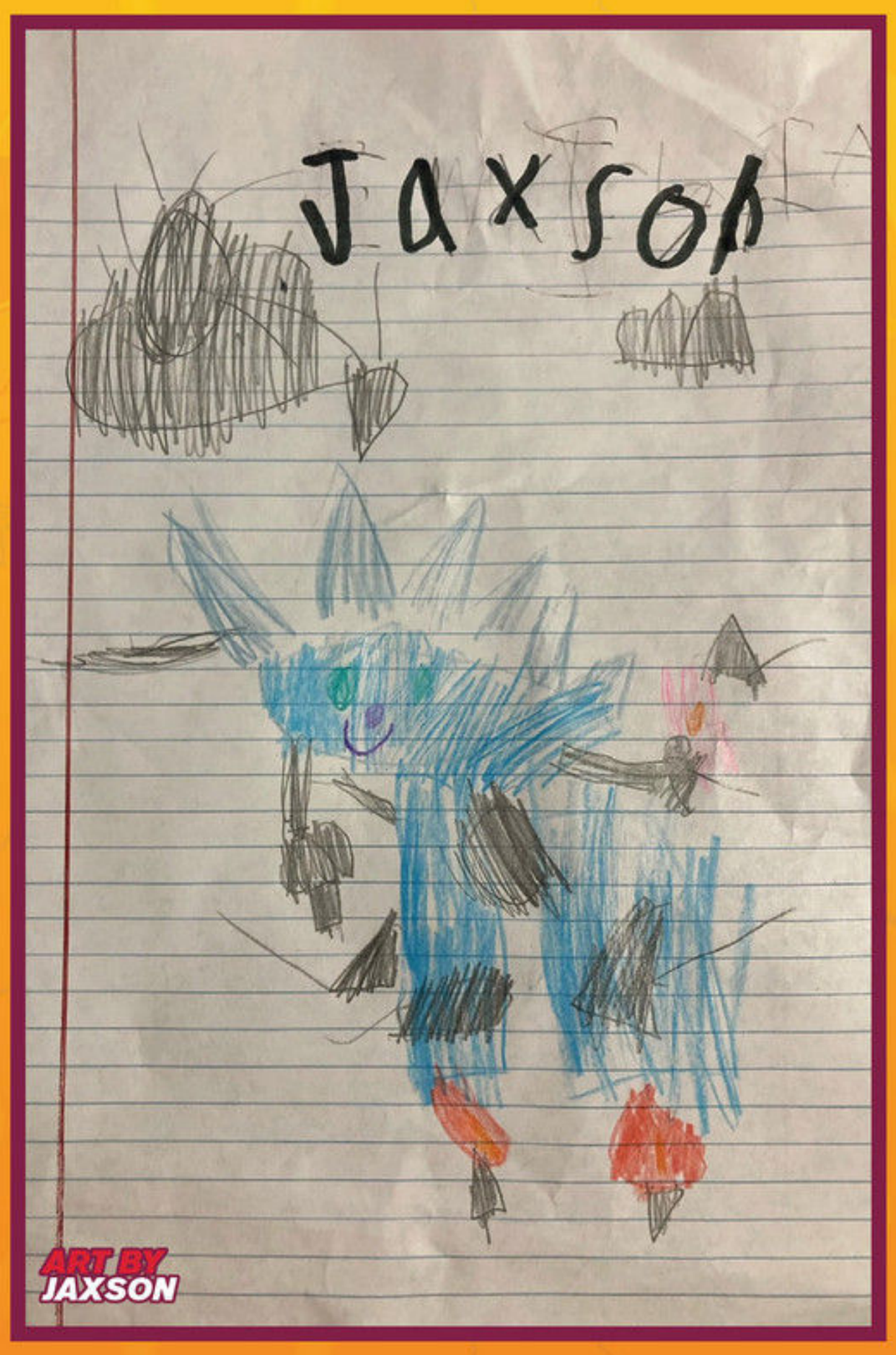
WE HAVEN'T BEEN HUNTING KNUCKLES. HE'S BEEN HUNTING *US* THIS WHOLE TIME!

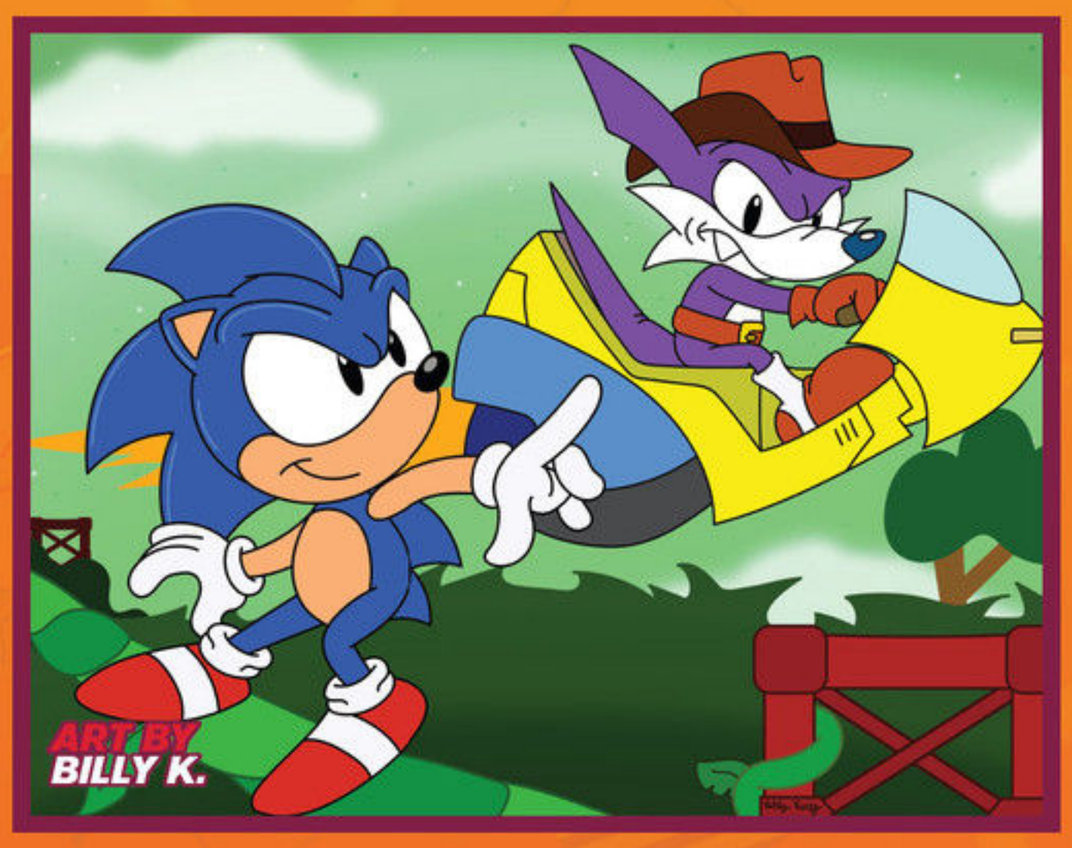
WELL, YOU AIN'T GOT ME YET, KNUCKLEHEAD!
WE'LL SEE JUST WHO'S THE BEST HUNTER TODAY!
NEXT TIME: FANG VS. KNUCKLES!

NEXT MONTH

SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

What's up, Sonic Squad mooks? You're part of Fang's gang now! So... can you go find Knuckles? Maybe free Bark and Bean? No? Well, who needs ya! Oh, wait, we do! Come back! Remember to thank Ian Flynn, Mauro Fonseca, Rik Mack, Valentina Pinto, and Shawn Lee for another awesome issue! Now, check out some Classic-themed art and stick around to meet cover artist, Mark Hughes!





Thanks as always for joining us, Squad mooks! Don't forget to send your art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them: "OKAY TO PRINT"! And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, *Fang the Hunter* continues as Fang and Knuckles go toe-to-toe!

CREATOR CORNER:

MARK HUGHES

What part of the Sonic comics do you create?

I'm a cover artist! I've worked on books set in the Classic era so far, specialising in the airbrushed style that the Japanese game covers and promo art used in the '90s. I adore old Sonic artwork anyway, so I'm thrilled to bits that we get to keep that going!

Who's your favorite Sonic character in the IDW books?

To nobody's surprise, it's Sonic! But if we're talking IDW-specific characters, I'd say Surge because her metallic accents and recognisable hairdo are such cool design features.

How do you take your chili dog?

Hold the onions, add mustard, and keep a paper towel on standby for the inevitable chili slippage.

How did you first discover Sonic?

My older brother was given a Mega Drive with Sonic 1 before I was born; he was the original fan in our house and I picked it up from him! When I was very little, I'd be there watching him and his friends until I was old enough to play the games for myself. The console was almost always hooked up to his bedroom TV though, so Saturday afternoons would involve sneaking in for some Sonic 3 while he wasn't home! (Thanks, bro!)

What was the first IDW Sonic issue you worked on?

It was the convention-exclusive cover for *Sonic the Hedgehog's 30th Anniversary Special!*

What's a boring fact about yourself?

It's stereotypical as a Brit, but I really do drink an inordinate amount of tea. Milk and one sugar, incidentally.

What's your favorite comic (besides Sonic)?

My favourite manga is *Dragon Ball* and I absolutely love the *Astérix* comics! The sense of humour is great, especially the historical gags, like the Sphinx's nose getting broken off in *Astérix and Cleopatra*. Albert Uderzo's artwork was always so charming and expressive; the varying thicknesses in his ink lines really appeal to me as well!

What do you do when you're not working on Sonic?

I worked in animation before Sonic and still do the occasional job in that. Outside of work, you'll usually find me drawing, sleeping, playing video games or petting my friend's dog!

What's the most unusual Sonic thing you own?

My particular niche is collecting stuff from Segaworld London, which was an indoor amusement park open from 1996-1999. I have old pamphlets, tokens, some souvenirs like pin badges and a tiny Sonic figurine… even a large SEGA flag that was originally hung up in the venue!

Side note: That Sonic statue originally stood in Segaworld and was rediscovered nearly 25 years after the place was dismantled. SEGA reacquired him for a full restoration and now he lives at their European office!

If you could go to dinner with one Sonic character, who would it be and why?

Definitely Mighty, he's another one of my favourites. The guy's just so chilled out and all-around nice. But I hope he wouldn't be against splitting the bill, because he's incredibly strong!

What kind of animal would you be in Sonic's universe?

I usually end up feeling very sleepy by the afternoon and slow waaaaay dooown… so I'd be a sloth.

ART AARON HAMMERSTROM

ART MARK HUGHES

ART MAURO FONSECA

GET READY TO SHRED THIS WINTER WITH SONIC AND THE GANG
SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG
WINTER JAM
DEE GEE MIN
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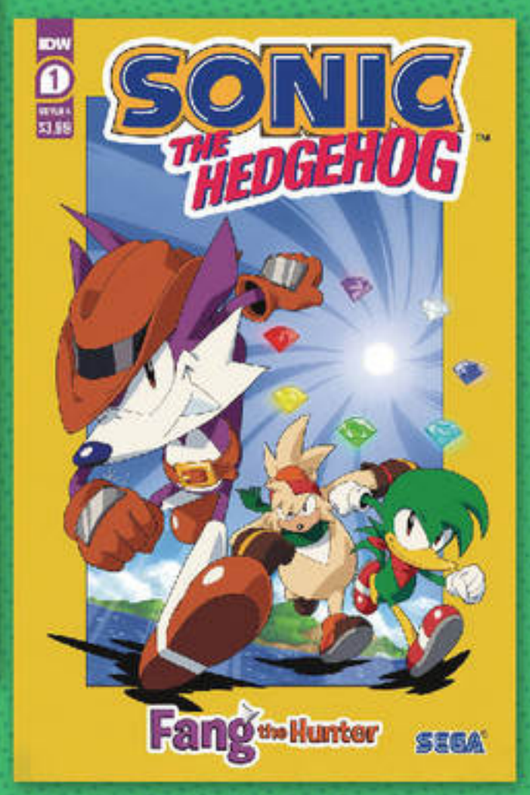
IDW VIEW FROM THE BACK PAGE

Ellen, please distribute to the staff immediately.

- Talk to some artists about doing some TURTLES comics for the 40th anniversary!
- Same, but for Godzilla. The King of the Monsters is turning 70!!!
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS is gonna be 50. How about a year of D&D: SATURDAY MORNING ADVENTURES?

- Get quotes for BENEATH THE TREES WHERE NOBODY SEES plushies!
- Ask Riley about new My Little Pony miniseries concepts
- When is STAR TREK: LOWER DECKS coming back?
- Remind Dunbier about this summer's ROCKETEER. Also ask him to show me some of the art for the next Artist's Editions

- Catch up with Sonic the Hedgehog. He's got a big year ahead. (Knuckles' 30th birthday!)
- Don't forget to tell everyone about GOLGOTHA MOTOR MOUNTAIN
- Get Staros to write one of these back pages about Top Shelf!
- ★ THE LAST RONIN II !!!!
- It's never too early to think about SDCC. New ideas, new concepts, new formats?

Jamie S. Rich
Editor-in-chief, IDW

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